

Spring Clearance Sale

Trunks, Suit Cases
and Leather GoodsAT
10% to 40%
Reduced PricesIncluding
Our Entire Stock of

Wardrobe Trunks

TOPHAMS

PIONEER MANUFACTURERS.

1219 F Street

We Repair Trunks and All Leather Goods

DEBATING SOCIETY OF
G. W. U. HOLDS BANQUET

Columbian Members Gather for Annual Spread at Dewey Hotel. Three Honor Guests.

Good natured satire prevailed at the annual banquet of the Columbian Debating Society of George Washington University last night at the Dewey Hotel, at which Dean Fraser, and Prof. E. O. Schreiber, Jr., and J. L. Parks, of the Law School, were the guests of honor. The art of debating came in for a fair share of comment in the serious talks of the evening. Dean Fraser characterizing it as one of the most important and beneficial, mentally, of any of the college activities.

Talks were given by the following officers of the society: O. Thaxter Smith, president; L. E. Pendell, vice president; B. M. Stovall, secretary; Max Rhoads, publicity chairman; G. V. Welkert, treasurer; and P. G. B. Morehouse, critic.

Among those present were: G. V. Welkert, E. D. Willy, and B. M. Stovall, composing the debating team; D. H. Cannon, L. E. Pendell, B. M. Stovall, H. O. Johnston, R. D. Murphy, D. A. West, H. L. Brown, Oscar Johannessen, H. W. Cornell, E. D. Willy, Max Rhoads, Mr. Hadman, Bert Van Mose, F. E. Taylor, G. T. Smith, H. G. Manning, G. H. Hall, J. T. Buchanan, Jr., H. S. Miller, M. M. Marcus, J. S. Gamba, P. B. Morehouse, Harold Robinson, E. F. Haycraft, M. H.

Francis, Charles Silver, and Alma Smith. The chairman of the arrangements committee was M. H. Francis.

CHURCH PAGEANT GIVEN

"The Conquest of the Continent," Staged at Epiphany.

The parish hall of the Church of the Epiphany was crowded last night by members of the congregation and their friends to witness the presentation of the "mystery" pageant, "The Conquest of the Continent," under direction of Mrs. W. A. Pillsbury, educational secretary of the Episcopal diocese of Philadelphia, and teacher of national classes in the study of the nation.

The several characters were portrayed by Miss Mary E. Van Posen, "The Mormon"; Miss Phyllis Snyder, "The Indian"; Miss Jennie Colton, "The Indian"; Miss Ruth Gray, "The Immigrant"; Miss Marie Covert, "America"; Oscar F. Comstock, "The Negro"; and Louis Smith, "The Equino."

The presentation was under direction of Miss Van Posen, and each of the characters made a plea for the gospel to be sent to their people.

Body to Be Sent Home.

The body of Benjamin F. Harnish, former cashier of the Peoples' National Bank of Belvidere, Ill., will be taken back to that city today for burial. Mr. Harnish died on an Atlantic Coast Line train just outside of this city yesterday, and the body was turned over to a local undertaker. Accompanied by his wife and son, Mr. Harnish was returning home from Jacksonville, Fla.

DEADLOCK OVER
U-BOAT ISSUE

Germany Denies Responsibility for Attacks and Wilson Waits for Facts.

DELAY IS EXPECTED

May Be Two Weeks Before Ambassador Gerard Transmits Definite Report from Berlin.

Germany and the United States have reached a temporary deadlock over the submarine issue involved in the recent attacks on merchant and passenger ships bearing Americans. Germany denying responsibility, has nothing to communicate in reply to Ambassador Gerard's request for facts concerning the damaging of the channel liner Sussex and President Wilson believes he should wait for further information before deciding upon the course he will follow. Secretary Lansing said yesterday there was little prospect of immediate developments.

The President and his cabinet discussed the matter comprehensively yesterday. News that the main committee of the German Reichstag had decided that "Germany's sea-warfare should be carried through by all means most instrumental in securing a successful issue of the war" reached officials before the cabinet met. The fact that Germany so far has refused to entertain the idea that a German submarine could have attacked the Sussex emphasized the importance of the evidence which has come from Great Britain and France tending to show that the vessel was torpedoed.

Prior to the cabinet meeting Senator Stone, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, and Chairman Flood, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, conferred with Secretary Lansing and asked to be informed of latest developments. They left with the impression that matters had reached a deadlock for the time being at least. Germany, it was explained, is evidently standing firmly on the contention that a German submarine did not damage the Sussex, and nothing but a report to the contrary from one of her own submarine commanders will change this view.

Ambassador Gerard is therefore placed in a position of "watchful waiting," as the only information which Germany would have to give him would come from the report of the submarine commander responsible for the attack. Officials at the White House say it may be two weeks or more before Ambassador Gerard is able to make a definite report from Berlin.

WILSON HONORS
BISHOP ASBURY

President Joins Baltimore Conference of Methodists in Eulogizing Leader.

HE QUOTES WASHINGTON

Early Union of All Branches of Methodism Is Theme of Addresses—Daniels Speaks.

President Wilson, in a memorial address before the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church last night at Foundry Church, eulogized the life work of Bishop Francis Asbury, whose centennial was celebrated yesterday.

"Occasionally," he said, "there arises a figure like that of Francis Asbury, a knight errant in the interest of rescuing the soul from this absorption in its physical environment and bringing it out where it can breathe the pure air of the upland, where the spirit of God moves upon us."

In the address of introduction, Bishop Earl Cranston, presiding officer of the conference, paid a glowing tribute to President Wilson. He offered the President the congratulatory of the conference and asserted the members were proud of the signal proof he has given of his kindness for mankind.

Quoted George Washington. President Wilson, in reply, read the reply of George Washington in an address which the first President made before the original Baltimore Conference, concluding with the words: "I shall always strive to prove a faithful and impartial patron of genuine vital religion. I take in the kindest part the promise you make of presenting to me and I likewise implore the divine benediction on yourselves and your religious community."

Bishop Theodore E. Behrens opened the service with an address entitled "On the Trail of Asbury."

Secretary of the Navy Daniels closed the services with a short address in which he also eulogized the life of Bishop Asbury.

Hope of an early union of all branches of Methodism with the support of Bishop Earl Cranston was expressed at the day sessions. Bishop Cranston, who will be retired at an early date, made "The Unity of Methodism" the theme of a prophecy in an address Tuesday. The speakers yesterday lauded Bishop Cranston as the leader in the eventual unity of the church, north and south.

Following an address by Rev. F. J. Frettyman, delegate of the Methodist Church, South, in which he asserted the conference was eager for an early union, the conference voted to send reciprocal greetings to the next conference of the Methodist Church, South, expressing a desire for a united service.

By vote of the conference and with the admonition of Bishop Cranston against imitation of Billy Sunday, and to be natural, mainly, as to stand by "your own character," ten candidates were admitted into full connection with the conference.

Bishop Cranston lauded Billy Sunday for consistency in preaching the Bible and adapting himself to his audiences, in admonishing the successful candidates.

"Sunday is an example of one kind of preaching," he said. "He gratifies and wins them. You must win them after your own fashion."

The candidates will be ordained tomorrow.

A report from the board of conference claimants urging increased support for retired preachers was received by Rev. J. B. Hingley, Rev. L. T. Wilderman, agent of the Bible Society and secretary-treasurer of the educational fund, submitted the report of this body.

H. S. Omohundro yesterday was chosen president of the laymen's conference of the Washington District. Other officers elected were David Abernethy, Baltimore district; R. E. Aronson, East Baltimore district; L. M. Bender, Frederick district; F. W. Bolgiano, Washington district, and George J. Smith, West Baltimore district. Vice presidents: William Hinson, Jr., H. Kern and R. C. Beall, secretaries; L. L. Derrick, treasurer. Members of the executive committee: J. S. Rawlings, Baltimore district; L. M. Bacon, East Baltimore; Judge A. Taylor, Washington; Edward Dixon, Frederick; and Dr. George C. Shannon, West Baltimore district.

Bishop Cranston made a strong plea for the unity of the three branches of Methodism. He related the history of the severance of the two conferences, but predicted they would be reunited within four years. He also urged the appointment of colored bishops to preside over the colored conference.

The lay electoral college session yesterday also was occupied with the election of delegates. Through a preliminary ballot nine nominations were received for delegates to the conference to be held at Saratoga Springs next month.

Dr. Olin Leech, Washington; and Sumnerfield Baldwin, J. G. Giesel, George C. Shannon, and J. T. Stone, all of Baltimore; Theodore Behrens, Marks, Robert and James E. Ingram, both of Baltimore.

PLANS AD-MILEAGE EXCHANGE.

Culbertson Proposes Amendment to Interstate Commerce Act.

Senator Culbertson, of Texas, has proposed an amendment to the Interstate Commerce act to permit publishers to contract for an exchange of advertising space to railroads engaged in interstate commerce transportation mileage.

The amendment is as follows: "Provided that nothing in this provision shall be construed to prevent the right of contract between railway companies and publishers, editors, or proprietors of newspapers or magazines in making an exchange of mileage for advertising space in such newspapers or magazines provided that the contract between the railway company and publisher, editor or proprietor of such newspaper or magazine shall be upon the same basis of charges as is charged the public generally for a like service, that the said exchange shall be upon a basis of value in all cases, and that such contract shall be in writing and shall not be operative until approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission, and filed in the office of said commission as a part of the records thereof, subject at all reasonable times to public inspection."

SALVATION ARMY ISSUES PLEA.

Industrial Department Asks for Old Papers and Magazines.

The Salvation Army Industrial Home makes an appeal to every housewife in the city to save her old papers, magazines, furniture, clothing, tags, shoes, iron, etc., to aid in the relief work of the organization.

In making the appeal the army issues a statement to the effect that last year it supplied 14,944 lodgings, 44,317 meals, and paid \$16,168.58 in wages to the unemployed who applied for aid. This was done with money derived from the sale of the above mentioned articles.

Adj. W. H. Helfert, of the industrial department, warned the public against impostors who make collections in the name of the Salvation Army and explains that all authorized representatives wear a cap with a blue badge reading "The Salvation Army Industrial Department." The wagons are similarly marked.

Hits Philippines Bill and Bryan.

Denouncing the Philippine independence bill, Representative McArthur, an Oregon Republican, declared in the House yesterday that "a party of political partisans headed by William Jennings Bryan are about to turn the islands over to the Mexican politicians who clamor for the opportunity to exploit the people in the name of independence."

China to Sell Bonds Here.

Dr. Koo, the Chinese Minister to the United States, announced yesterday that his government has appointed Lee Higginson & Co., of Boston, as its fiscal agent to place Chinese bond issues in this country.

WONDER
SPRING STYLES

NO MORE

NO LESS

The only difference between Wonder Clothes at \$10 and other clothes at \$15 or \$18 is the fact that we are direct distributors---thus eliminating the middleman and retailer's profit of \$5.00 to \$8.00.

We're sacrificing profit now to maintain our reputation for value giving.

Prices of cloth, lining, canvas, etc.--in fact, everything we use---is higher than we ever saw in our 30 years of experience, but you can rest assured we will never reduce the quality of WONDER CLOTHES.

If the war and high prices continue much longer we may have to raise our prices.

The great value of our clothes is more apparent now than ever before, as we have our own factory and were prepared, whereas the merchant who has to depend upon outside manufacturers is feeling the pressure right now and cannot possibly give you the same value as in the past for the same money. We should like you to compare our clothes with what you can buy elsewhere for \$15 and \$18.

MAIL ORDERS FILLED. SEND FOR SAMPLES. OPEN SATURDAY EVENINGS UNTIL 10 P. M.

Two Stores In Washington

14th and New York Ave.

621 Penna. Ave.

LAUDS PUPILS' WORK
IN NIGHT CLASSES

Director Murch Addresses Final Meeting of Jefferson School—D. A. R. Awards Prizes.

At the closing exercises of Jefferson Night School last night, B. V. Murch, director of night schools, reviewed the work in this educational branch for the year past, and of the material progress made by the pupils, adding that it had been one of the most successful years.

The committee on patriotic education of the District of Columbia, through the Daughters of the American Revolution, awarded prizes for the best compositions, which were won by Joseph Long and Isadore Zamonsky.

The following members of the eighth grade were promoted to the high school: Annie O'Connor, Abraham Zamansky, Charles Jackson, David Stearnman, Edna Quinn, Helen Youtter, John Schlicht, Moses Caplan, Raymond Marks, Robert Theodore Behrens, Julius Bieker and Michael Carline.

CAPITAL MAY RIDE ON
SUMMER CARS TODAY

If Weather Remains Warm Several Open Cars Will Be Put Into Service by Companies.

Open cars probably will make their appearance on the lines of both the Washington Railway and Electric Company and the Capital Traction Company today.

Under the laws of Congress, open cars may be operated on nights after April 1. The superintendents of both companies said last night that if the weather remains warm a few summer cars will be put on immediately.

The Public Utilities Commission expects the advent of the open car will check complaints regarding poor ventilation in the closed cars.

Negro Shoots Himself.

While hundreds of employees of the Government Printing Office were leaving the building, North Capitol and G streets northwest, at 4:30 yesterday afternoon, James W. White, colored, of Richmond, Va., shot and killed himself in the little triangular park at Massachusetts and New Jersey avenues, less than a block from the big print shop. White, who was 29, died en route to Casualty Hospital in the automobile patrol of the Sixth precinct.

Poison Victim Taken Home.

The body of Mrs. Blanche Taylor, 37, who died at Georgetown Hospital yesterday from poison, was taken to her home at 811 N. Y. St., late yesterday. Coroner Nevitt's certificate states death was due to poison, which, the coroner was informed, she took about ten days ago. Realizing the seriousness of her condition, Dr. John P. Smallwood, the attending physician, had her brought to the hospital here.

Escapes Prisoners' Van.

Freddie Joyce, 32, colored, escaped from the prisoners' van while it was en route to Union Station yesterday morning. Joyce, who gave his address as 618 T street northwest, had been sentenced for housebreaking, the police say. With other prisoners, he was being taken to Ocoquan.

JANET RICHARDS TO SPEAK.

Will Address Community Forum Tomorrow on Tariff Commission.

Miss Janet Richards, well known as a speaker on current political and economic subjects, will open the discussion on "The Tariff Commission versus the Present Method" tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Grover Cleveland Community Forum in the Public Library.

Miss Richards will follow Representative Henry T. Rainey, father of the administration Tariff Commission bill, recently introduced, who will give the chief address of the afternoon on the principles of the Rainey bill. Lewis K. Brown, of Chicago, executive secretary of the Tariff Commission League, will introduce Representative Rainey with a brief address on the importance of the subject from the point of view of civic and business organizations over the country.

Miss Richards will follow Representative Rainey and start the discussion, in which those who attend the meeting are invited to participate.

A. J. Driscoll, president of the Grover Cleveland Community Forum, will preside.

EDUCATORS ANXIOUS TO
AID PARENTS' MEETINGS

E. W. Daniel Tells Bradley School Organization Board Will Allow Use of Buildings for Meetings.

By invitation of the teachers of the Bradley School, a large gathering of parents met at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the school building and were addressed by Ernest H. Daniel, vice president of the Board of Education.

The speaker stated that the Board of Education was anxious to cooperate with the parents by allowing them the use of the school buildings for meeting purposes, when such meetings did not work hardships upon the teachers and janitor.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Fairchild Abbott, president; C. C. Guilford, vice president, and Mrs. Spok, secretary. The next meeting will be held next Tuesday.

Great Britain must send to the trenches approximately 120,000 men a month in order to maintain her army at its present strength.

Banish Rheumatism

Catarrh, Malaria and all Blood Infections by the use of S.S.S.

It Assists Nature in Her Work

The work of S. S. S. is to assist Nature back to normal when the natural process of throwing off poisons becomes unbalanced and the blood infected. No human is immune from blood infection. But every one has in S. S. S. the means to combat blood impurities, as well as a way to bring renewed health and vigor to the entire system.

S. S. S., the wonderful vegetable remedy, is in a class by itself, and has maintained its merit over a period of fifty years. If you demand all that's pure and safe, as you should do, in a blood tonic—then S. S. S. is that you demand.

Free Medical advice given by experts. Write Medical Dept. Room 324 The Swift Specific Co. Atlanta, Ga.

Get a Bottle of S. S. S. at your druggist and start treatment today.

LECTURES ON RELATION
OF ENGINEER TO ARMY

Maj. James A. Woodruff, U. S. A., Tells Local Society Scientific Men Necessary in Case of War.

Members of the Washington Society of Engineers listened to an interesting illustrated lecture last night at the Cosmos Club by Maj. James A. Woodruff, U. S. A., on "The Relation of the Civil Engineer to Military Affairs."

The speaker showed pictures of the engineering corps at work constructing roads, bridges and telegraph and telephone lines, explaining each picture. Interesting views of the work of that branch of the army service in the Philippine Islands were among those presented.

In speaking of the corps and the army, Maj. Woodruff stated that if the standing army of the United States should be recruited up to 500,000 men it would necessitate, on a proportionate basis, 12,000 engineers and 3,000 enlisted men in the engineering corps of this number 8,000 would be required as non-commissioned officers.

The present standing of the corps, he stated, was 24 officers and 1,300 men. He added that if the number was recruited to full war strength the National Guard would have to supply a large portion of the required number.

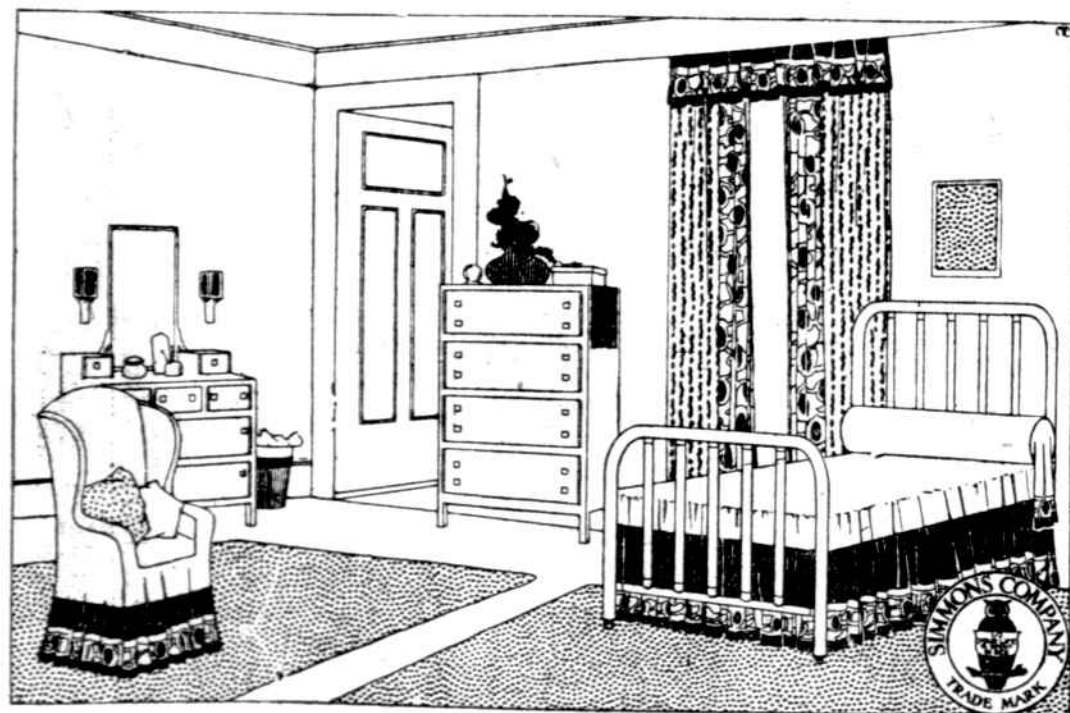
There were several hundred present.

Greetings for George Thier.

Employees in the office of Supervising Inspector George Thier of the Steamboat Inspection Service in the Commerce Department, yesterday extended greetings to Mr. Thier upon the completion of his thirteenth year in the service. The event was the occasion of the presentation to Mr. Thier of a handsome bouquet of roses. Supervising Inspector O'Donnell, of Boston, made the presentation speech.

Commissioners Commended

A resolution commending the Commissioners for the speedy and satisfactory manner in which they settled the recent street car strike was adopted at a meeting of the Cleveland Park School and Community Association in the John Eaton School last night. Maj. D. E. Aultman told of his experiences in Germany during the past year, relating stories of the war.

Come In and Move This Bed
Around Yourself

Until you feel it roll at your lightest touch, you'll never believe how light is the weight of Simmons Beds.

Even though you have read all about them in The Saturday Evening Post and Ladies' Home Journal and other magazines, make the test on our floor. Try it! Learn what Simmons Beds mean in saving your floors and rugs.

Moreover, to appreciate the beauties of the new finish achieved in Simmons permanent enamels, you must see more than pictures. Let us show you

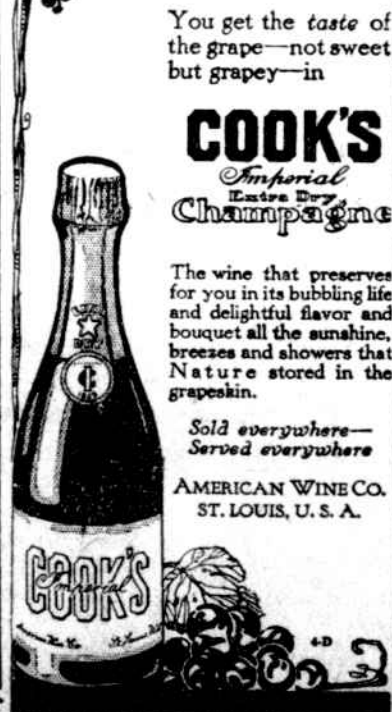
Simmons Steel Beds

that you may fully understand why the day of old iron beds is done. Steel is the ideal material for durable beds and always has been. The only problem has been to work it—until Simmons showed how!

The moment we saw the new Simmons Steel Beds we realized that our customers would want them. We stocked them on sight—looking after your interests with the customary foresight. And now that we have them here, we want an opportunity of showing them to you.

The Bed Pictured Is Only \$7.50

Other perfect models in the line are equally moderate in price. Come in and see them all!



You get the taste of the grape—not sweet but grapey—in

COOK'S
Imperial
Champagne

The wine that preserves for you in its bubbling life and delightful flavor and bouquet all the sunshine, breezes and showers that Nature stores in the grapeskin.

Sold everywhere—Served everywhere—AMERICAN WINE CO. ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.